

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
POLICY, ECONOMICS
AND INNOVATION

Thomas L. Tinsley, Brigadier General, USAF
Commander, 3rd Wing
11550 Heritage Circle, Suite 200
Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska 99506-2850

Dear General Tinsley:

December of 2004 marked the completion of the joint ENVironmental InVESTment (ENVVEST)/Project eXcellence and Leadership (Project XL) Initiative, a successful partnership between the US EPA, Elmendorf Air Force Base, and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), to achieve superior environmental performance through the implementation of an alternative-fuel vehicle program and other pollution prevention projects. EPA would like to congratulate Elmendorf Air Force Base on the fulfillment of the commitments you made in the Final Project Agreement Signed on December 15, 1999. We received your Final Report on June 3, 2005 and at this time we would like to officially close out the record on the Elmendorf ENVVEST/Project XL project.

Through Project eXcellence and Leadership (Project XL) over 50 project sponsors, numerous states, and other project stakeholders have contributed to significant environmental and public health gains across the nation. Broad accomplishments of Project XL include building partnerships to achieve positive environmental results and testing new incentives to produce these results. The Elmendorf Air Force Base ENVVEST/Project XL Initiative specifically has contributed to environmental gains by:

- 1) reducing carbon monoxide (CO) and nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions through the introduction of a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicle fleet and fueling station, and
- 2) reducing Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) emissions by implementing pollution prevention practices in surface coating processes and installing fuel cell technology to augment power demands at Fire Station No. 3.

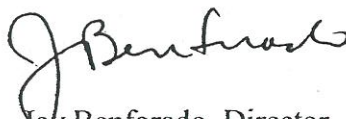
Although the Project XL initiative is coming to a close with the resolution of its original 52 projects, EPA's work on innovative approaches to environmental protection continues. In June of 2003 EPA established the National Center for Environmental Innovation (NCEI). The work of NCEI builds on the foundation created by Project XL and maintains a focus on finding new ways to achieve improved environmental results and improve the efficiency of environmental protection. We are grateful for Elmendorf Air Force Base's early leadership and we welcome your continued interest in EPA's work on innovative practices. You can find more information about NCEI and stay

informed about EPA's latest innovation activities by going to <http://www.epa.gov/innovation/>. Enclosed also, please also find a recent NCEI brochure that describes in more detail some of the projects and activities centered in this program.

EPA remains committed to learning from each partnership and individual investment in innovation. Results from completed pilots provide a valuable set of data for the Agency both in terms of potential program-wide changes and potential transferability to other facilities. We thank you for your assistance in analyzing the Elmendorf ENVVEST/Project XL project.

In closing, we would like to thank you again for your participation in Project XL and your successful demonstration of excellence and leadership in public health and environmental protection. We are enclosing a certificate in recognition of your achievements which we hope you will enjoy putting on display at your facility. If we can be of any assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me (202.566.0290) or Gerald Filbin (202.566.2182) at NCEI.

Sincerely,



Jay Benforado, Director
National Center for Environmental Innovation

cc: Dave Bray, EPA, Region 10
David Beck, EPA, NCEI
Ted Cochin, EPA, NCEI
William Garvey, EPA, FFEO
James Plosay, ADEC
Jim Baumgartner, ADEC
Ann Lawton, Elmendorf AFB

Enclosures:

NCEI Brochure

Certificate of Completion of Innovation Project – Elmendorf AFB